

UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME



UNDP

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DP/PROJECTS/2772 ✓

(INT/78/020)

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APPROVAL OF UNDP ASSISTANCE TO A PROJECT OF THE
GOVERNMENTS OF BANGLADESH, BENIN, BOTSWANA, BRAZIL, BURUNDI, CAPE VERDE, CHAD,
ETHIOPIA, HAITI, INDIA, INDONESIA, LAO PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC, LESOTHO,
MADAGASCAR, MALI, NEPAL, NIGER, PHILIPPINES, RWANDA, SIERRA LEONE, SOMALIA,
THAILAND, TUNISIA, UPPER VOLTA AND THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA

Planning, Organization, Implementation and Support
for Special Public Works Programmes
in Burundi, Nepal and the United Republic of Tanzania
(INT/78/020)

Report of the Administrator*

Date of present approval:	April 1979
Starting date of project activities:	January 1979 ^{1/}
Planned completion date:	December 1981
To be executed by:	International Labour Organisation (ILO)
Government implementing agencies:	Ministries of Planning, Labour, Public Works, and Rural Development
Estimated cost of assistance planned under present approval:	(UNDP financed: \$1 937 655 \$3 077 155 (OPEC Special Fund cost sharing: \$1 139 500)
Source of UNDP financing:	Indicative Planning Figure (IPF) Special Measures Funds for Least Developed Countries

I. Background

1. Judiciously selected labour-intensive public works projects can help to stem rising seasonal unemployment and underemployment common in many least developed countries and provide infrastructure for increasing food production, amenities, feeder

^{1/} Project activities had begun prior to the present approval of a reduction in the OPEC Special Fund cost-sharing contribution and a corresponding increase in the UNDP contribution from Special Measures Funds for Least Developed Countries.

*In accordance with General Assembly resolution 2688 (XXV) and subsequent authorizations of the UNDP Governing Council, reports are issued seriatim on the approval of UNDP assistance of \$250,000 or more (including, if any, assistance financed by Government or by third-party cost-sharing).

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roads, storage and marketing facilities, and health centres. Experience has shown, however, that the organization and operational efficiency of such projects must be improved in order to realize their many benefits for development.

2. It was in this context that the UNDP/ILO project, Planning and Administration of Special Public Works Programmes (INT/74/022), ^{2/} was carried out during 1975-1978. This project has helped participating Governments to identify possible public works schemes and train their officials in the planning and management of such schemes. Special labour-intensive public works programmes have now been prepared in 12 countries, the future expansion of which will be developed under the present project, with the likelihood that other countries will be ready to launch similar programmes in the years to come.

II. Objectives and activities

3. The immediate objectives of the project are to: (a) develop, in interested countries and through appropriate training, a sufficient number of qualified economists, administrators and engineering personnel to plan, organize, implement, monitor and evaluate significant labour-intensive public works programmes properly integrated with national development planning; (b) help interested Governments to organize such programmes by providing advisory services; (c) assess those factors affecting the productivity and real costs of labour-intensive public works programmes and disseminate results of this assessment; (d) prepare relevant training materials; and (e) facilitate the co-ordination of technical and financial support to those programmes, both at the country and interregional level.

4. Among the programmes prepared through activities under the first phase project (INT/74/022) are two large-scale, labour-intensive public works programmes starting in 1978 to be carried out in collaboration with the Governments of Nepal and the United Republic of Tanzania. A pilot programme will be launched in Burundi in 1979.

5. Since many least developed countries do not have adequate funds for the implementation of labour-intensive public works programmes, fund-raising for the mobilization of additional external resources for specific public works projects will remain an important objective of the project.

III. Inputs

6. UNDP will provide, through the Executing Agency, to participating Governments of least developed countries interested in developing labour-intensive public works programmes, assistance in the planning and management of such schemes, with particular reference to: the design of labour-intensive works projects; an estimation of the available labour surplus; the selection of projects; the co-ordination with other development programmes and the integration of the planning of public works programmes into economic planning; the definition of suitable administrative and institutional structures including arrangements for popular participation in the planning and execution of schemes; the possibilities for internal financing; socio-economic evaluation; and an assessment of productivity on worksites and human aspects and conditions of work, including workers' remuneration.

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7. The OPEC Special Fund will finance the direct and indirect foreign exchange costs of imported goods required for Burundi, Nepal and the United Republic of Tanzania.

8. The following additional support will also be provided:

(a) In Burundi: The Ministry of Public Works, Transport and Equipment has proposed the following programme for Muramvya Province: anti-erosion works, afforestation, marshland improvement, water supply and rural housing. The Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Rural Development is responsible for the programme, among others. An interministerial body will be set up in which the national team who prepared the country report under the project INT/74/022 will participate, in co-operation with an ILO/Danish International Development Agency project.

(b) In Nepal: Five United Nations volunteers and a civil engineering adviser for two years, and five training workshops, (four for collaborating with the Soil and Water Conservation Department and one for an overseers training programme at the district level under the Local Development Department), and project equipment. Additional Government departments involved in implementation of the project include the Department of Irrigation, Hydrology and Meteorology, the Department of Roads, and the Lumbini Development Project Committee. They are all responsible to the National Planning Commission. The district and village panchyats will also be involved. To overcome shortages of middle-level technical and supervisory staff, the Government has set up the following: (a) a "Development Pioneer Corps" of ex-army engineers; (b) compulsory field service by university students under the National Service Schemes; and (c) "labour supply centres" established by the Ministry of Labour for imparting construction skills to workers and then deploying them as required.

(c) In the United Republic of Tanzania: Eight United Nations volunteers for two years, and project equipment, for a rural water supply scheme and a road construction project. The Government will provide the necessary staff, the skilled and unskilled labour, and equipment not otherwise supplied. The programme, which comprises 25 projects in the fields of small-scale irrigation, feeder-road construction, tsetse fly eradication, soil conservation, afforestation, rural water supply and rural housing, will be managed by the Government Co-ordination Committee, and will be integrated with the regional development plans. The Prime Minister's office will be in charge of the over-all co-ordination.

9. The technical advisers in the two UNDP/ILO and ILO/DANIDA projects in Burundi and the United Republic of Tanzania, as well as the technical adviser in the labour-intensive works programme in Nepal, will regularly report on delivery and deployment of UNDP and OPEC Special Fund equipment and material inputs in the respective countries.

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IV. Financial data

10. The expenditure components of the planned assistance are as follows:

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Personnel	1 290 810
Training	257 175
Equipment	1 505 170
Miscellaneous	24 000
	3 077 155

Financed by:

UNDP: IPF	914 650
SMF/LDCs	1 023 005
OPEC Special Fund	
cost sharing:	1 139 500

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